

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 03267 301012Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01 AGR-05

AGRE-00 FEA-01 /097 W

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R 291248Z SEP 76 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3352

INFO AMEMBASSYATHENS

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3267

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR AU DA EEC CSCE EFTA

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA-KARLTAU VISITS COPENHAGEN

SUMMARY: AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ERICH BIELKA-KARLTAU

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 COPENH 03267 301012Z

PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO DENMARK SEPTEMBER 20-22. MAIN

TOPIC OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH DANISH COLLEAGUES K.B. ANDERSEN AND IVAR NORGAARD WAS CHANCELLOR BRUNO KRIESKY'S PLAN TO CALL SUMMIT OF EFTA-COUNTRY LEADERS IN THE SPRING OF 1977. THE PURPOSE OF THE SUMMIT WOULD BE TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR CLOSER COOPERATION WITH THE EC COUNTRIES, A GOAL THE DANES VIEW WITH FAVOR. THE EXACT FRAMEWORK FOR THE COOPERATION TALKS WAS TO BE DETERMINED. END SUMMARY.

1. AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ERICH BIELKA-KARLTAU PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO DENMARK SEPTEMBER 20-22. HE RECEIVED FULL OFFICIAL HONORS, INCLING A VISIT WITH THE QUEEN, A TALK WITH PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN, AND A STATE DINNER. THE DANISH PRESS REPORTED THAT BIELKA WILL STEP DOWN FROM HIS POST WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE TO ASSUME A DIRECTORSHIP WITH AN AUSTRIAN BANK.

2. DURING HIS TALKS WITH HIS TWO DANISH COLLEAGUES, FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN AND FOREIGN ECONOMIC MINISTER IVAR NORGAARD, BIELKA PRESENTED CHANCELLOR BRUNO/KREISKY'S PLAN TO ESTABLISH A BODY TO IMPORVE COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN EUROPE. THIS BODY WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE CLOSER COOPERATION IN GENERAL BETWEEN THE COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES AND THE EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION COUNTRIES. IT WOULD ALSO BRING AUSTRIA INTO THE ECONOMIC MAINSTREAM OF EUROPE. THE PLAN WOULD BE PRESENTED AT AN EFTA-SUMMIT THAT KRIESKY PROPOSED BE HELD IN THE SPRING OF 1977.

3. MINISTER IVAR NORGAARD SAID AFTER HIS TALK WITH BIELKA THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ITS UTMOST TO ENSURE THAT THE AUSTRIAN PLAN WAS WELL RECEIVED IN BURSSELS. TO THE LARGE COPENHAGEN DAILY POLITIKEN (INDEPENDENT LEFT OF CENTER) NORGAARD SAID:
" I HAVE ENTERTAINED SIMILAR IDEAS AND BRUNO KREISKY'S PLAN APPEALS VERY MUCH TO THE DANISH GOVERNMENT." POLITIKEN ADDED THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT FEARS THAT THE COMMON MARKET WILL EXPEND ALL OF ITS TIME AND ENRGY IN DEAING WITH SOUTHERN EUROPEAN PROBLEMS, SUCH AS THE POSSIBLE EC
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 COPENH 03267 301012Z

MEMBERSHIP OF GREECE, AND LATER OF PORTUGAL AND SPAIN. "IT WOULD CLEARLY BE IN THE DANISH INTEREST IF A CLOSER COOPERATION WITH EFTA, INCLUDING NOWAY AND SWEDEN, COULD PULL IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION", NORGAARD SAID.

4. THE DANISH GOVERNMENT FOUND THE PROBLEMS OF THE NEW ECONOMIC WORLD ORDER AN OPPORPRIATE FIRST ITEM

ON THE AGENDA. RAW MATERIALS AND ENERGY SUPPLY, WHICH ARE CURRENTLY DISCUSSED IN UNCTAD, SHOULD BE PRIORITY TOPICS. HOWEVER, THE ANES ALSO SAW THE POSSIBILITY OF HARMONIZATION OF TECHNICAL INDUSTRIAL STANDARDS A WORTHWHILE SUBJECT. "FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA-KARTLAU AGREED TO THIS", NORGAAARD CONCLUDED, "BUT HE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO SEE INCREASED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EC AND EFTA ON SOCIAL QUESTIONS, LABOR MARKET PROBLEMS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, AND WE PERCEIVE NO OBJECTION TO THAT."

5. A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY STAFF IN COPENHAGEN TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT THE BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP ON THE CSCE HELSINKI ACCORDS ALSO WAS DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS. WHILE THE AUSTRIANS PREFERRED A MEETING AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL, THE DANES WERE NOT SO CERTAIN. THEY AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THE BELGRADE MEETING SHOULD NOT DEVELOP INTO A TRIBUNAL TO CONDEMN COUNTRIES WHICH HAD NOT MADE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE HELSINKI ACCORDS. OUR AUSTRIAN SOURCE BEGAN HIS PRESENTATION BY EMPHASIZING THAT POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN EFTA AND EC LEADERS SHOULD INCLUDE BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

6. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT NORGAAARD'S STATEMENTS REFLECT HARD DANISH POLICY. ON THE BASIS OF OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL AFFAIRS WE BELIEVE THAT NORGAAARD, BECAUSE OF HIS DESIRE TO PLEASE THE AUSTRIANS AT NO COST TO DENMARK, WAS MERELY PAYING LIP SERVICE TO SOME IDEAS WHICH THE DANES DO NOT BELIEVE WILL GET OFF THE GROUND.

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